

Remarks

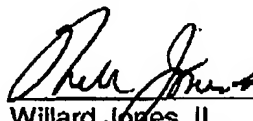
Applicants acknowledge and appreciate the Examiner's allowance of claims 11 and 12. The Examiner also stated that claims 18 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 18 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of previously submitted claim 17 (now canceled), and claim 20 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of previously submitted claim 19 (now canceled).

Applicants have canceled claims 1-10, 13-17, 19, and 21. However, Applicants reserve the right to resubmit those cancelled claims in a divisional application.

Conclusion

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the claims, as amended, are in an allowable form. An early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Willard Jones, II
Registration No. 31,172

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
7201 Hamilton Boulevard
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18195-1501
Telephone Number: (610) 481-4587
Telefax Number: (610) 481-7083